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COMIC SHOP NEWS

PUNISHER MAX

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

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PunisherMAXed Out

After many years of brutal battle against heartless criminals and bloodthirsty thugs, Frank Castle's bloody ***PunisherMAX*** battles are coming to an end—but Castle is going out with a bang, not a whimper, as the series comes to a dramatic planned ending that seems almost inexorable, considering the path the series has taken over the years.

"***PunisherMAX*** is ending, the way I always intended it," writer *Jason Aaron* tweeted, revealing that he and artist *Steve Dillon* are building to an unforgettable ending to the edgy series.

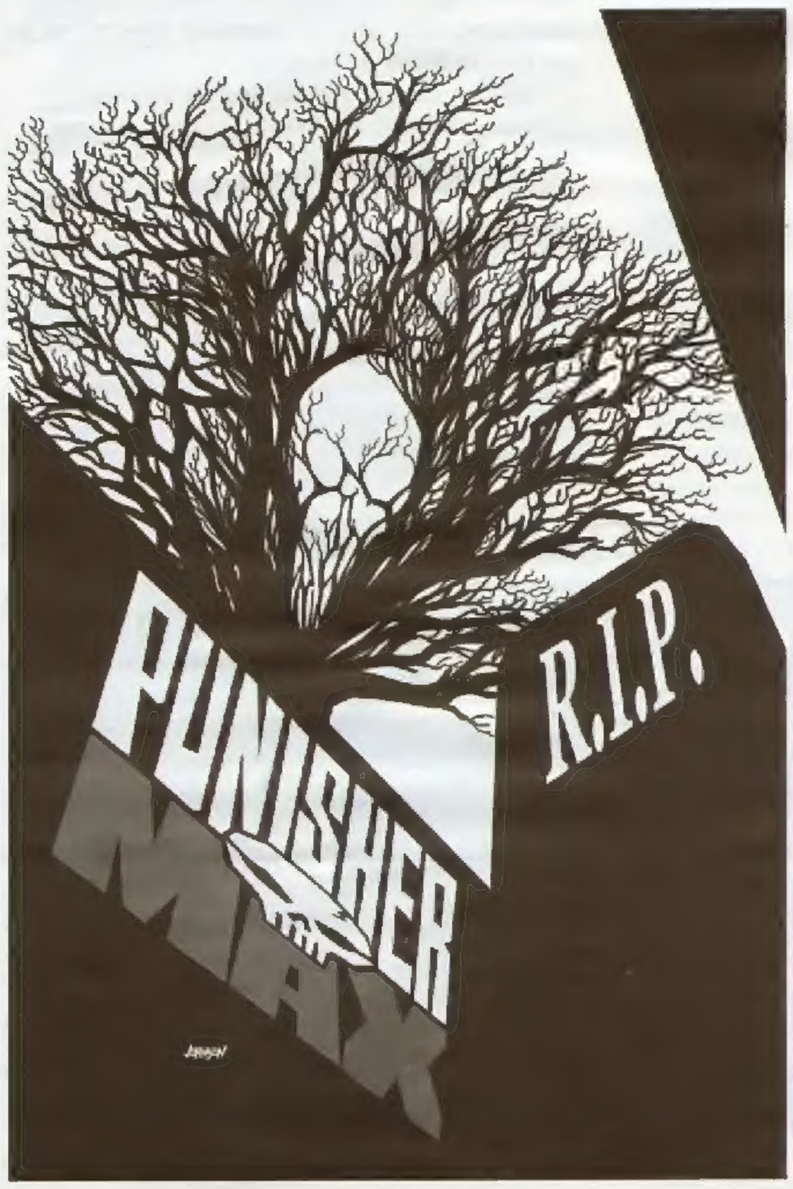
"The day has come. You always knew the Punisher's one-man war against organized crime would end bad, but you never knew how bad," Marvel Editor In Chief *Axel Alonso* said. "With ***PunisherMAX #22***, *Jason Aaron & Steve Dillon* bring the tragedy of Frank Castle's life to a boil and their epic run to a bloody climax that will haunt readers for years to come."

"It's been a big sick bloody thrill working on this series and a right honor following in the footsteps of *Garth Ennis*," explained Aaron. "I must say, I'm as proud of this series as anything I've ever done at Marvel, in large part because of the amazing art team of *Dave Johnson*, *Matt Hollingsworth*, and of course, *Steve Dillon*. This was always intended to be one big story, with a very specific beginning, middle and a slam-bang mother of an end. I'm afraid I can't say any more about the ending than that....other than that it gave me chills, just getting to write it."

"I've drawn a lot of Frank Castle over the last dozen or so years and I've been lucky enough to work with some really good writers while doing so," Dillon said. "Jason has really delivered on this one, so much so that I wait for the script to arrive in my inbox like a fan waiting for the book to hit the shelves in the store. He's taken some great characters, like the Kingpin and Bullseye, and given them his own MAX twist. He's also taken Frank on a tortuous, personal journey and it's all been great fun to draw."

To ensure retailers have enough copies of the series' lead-in, Marvel will be going back to press on ***PunisherMAX #17*** and ***PunisherMAX #18***. The chapters kicking off "Homeless," the name of Aaron and Dillon's final arc, are only a taste of what's in store for Frank Castle and Marvel wants to make sure no fan misses the beginning of the end.

PunisherMAX #22 is scheduled for February release.



IDW Gets Re-Infested

Earlier this year, IDW kicked off one of the most unpredictable crossovers in the company's history as a part of their ***Infestation*** event—a zombies-and-robots story that crossed over into such diverse comic book universes as the worlds of ***G.I. Joe, Ghostbusters, Star Trek,*** and ***Transformers.***

When IDW unleashes ***Infestation 2*** in 2012, however, IDW's Chief Creative Officer *Chris Ryall* said that they're heading into "Lovecraft territory" with a storyline that involves another unusual mix of franchises, including ***30 Days of Night, , Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Danger Girl,*** and ***Dungeons & Dragons,*** along with those already-Infested franchises ***Transformers*** and ***G.I. Joe.***

"We definitely wanted to use the Turtles this time," Ryall said. "They play well in any universe. Along with ***G.I. Joe,*** they function as our most superhero-esque title."

As for ***30 Days of Night,*** Ryall said that the Lovecraftean monsters make that series' vampires seem "*almost* sympathetic."

IDW has enlisted writer *Duane Swierczynski* and artist *David Messina* to do the honors on the two bookend issues of ***Infestation 2;*** the first issue kicks off the event in January 2012, while the second wraps it up in April. Both will feature covers by *David Messina* and *Alex Garner*. "Duane really gets what makes horror work and how to make a really interesting, action-packed comic," editor *Bobby Curnow* said.

The solo series kick off in February with ***Infestation 2: Transformers,*** written by *Chuck Dixon*. "This is basically what you get if you take Transformers, giant Lovecraftean monsters, and a history book and throw them into a blender," Curnow said. The story will feature such offbeat elements as a steam-punk Optimus Prime battling giant monsters in a world populated by such historical figures as Thomas Edison.

Infestation 2: Dungeons & Dragons—Eberron, written by *Paul Crilley*, will for the first time bring elements of the Eberron D&D world into the comics. "It makes much more sense than just forcing tentacles into the D&D universe," Ryall said. "It's less swords and more sorcery," Curnow added.

February 29th will present the most offbeat of all the crossover books, ***Infestation Team-Up;*** this book will include characters from such out-of-the-box titles as ***Groom Lake*** and ***Weekly World News*** (and yes, Batboy will be a part of this issue).

March brings ***Infestation 2: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles,*** which has a lot of turtles in dark, dismal sewer adventures. "This book has a real horror vibe," Curnow said of the *Tristan Jones* written crossover..

Mike Raicht is the writer of ***Infestation 2: G.I. Joe,*** which spotlights Cobra operatives Crystal Ball, Stormshadow, and Interrogator, who are somehow immune to the powers of the Lovecraftean monsters. Curnow said that the story was "like a cross between ***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*** and your favorite horror movie," adding that "you may or may not see some of your favorite Joes get involved, too."

Duane Swierczynski will write the ***Infestation 2: 30 Days of Night*** story, which pits vampiric horror against Lovecraftean horror in a North Pole battle that leaves readers unsure which side's victory would be worst for humankind.

Danger Girl won't be featured in her own ***Infestation 2*** crossover comic, but the series will link to the event in a surprising way.

"What's really nice is that this entire event feels really cohesive," Curnow said.

Infestation 2 will be a thirteen-book event (an expansion from ***Infestation's*** ten books); IDW said that the events of this series will have some impact on IDW's stories, and they also revealed that they always envisioned ***Infestation*** as a trilogy (meaning that a 2013 ***Infestation 3*** seems like a good bet).

CSNsider

•Several Marvel cancellations coming up in early 2012 as the company begins the previously-announced cutback in the number of books released each month. Some of the casualties include ***X-23*** (with #20); ***Ghost Rider*** (with #9); ***Black Panther, Man Without Fear*** (with #529); ***Daken: Dark Wolverine*** (final issue yet to be announced) and ***Villains for Hire*** (well, this one was always a limited series, but it's being cut from five issues to four issues).

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

•Boom has added a quartet of 1-for-30 'First Appearance" variant covers to their ***Peanuts*** lineup. The first issue features Charlie Brown; the second, Lucy; the third, Linus; and the fourth, Snoopy. "We are excited about the reception that ***Peanuts*** #0 has gotten," said Editor-in-Chief *Matt Gagnon*, "And this is a great way to celebrate and toss in something cool for the fans. This is going to be a fun, hard-to-find Easter egg item for the true blue ***Peanuts*** collectors." If you're interested, check with the nice folks at their friendly neighborhood comic shop for info regarding price and availability.

•***Detective Comics #5*** will feature a one-shot backup story by *Tony S. Daniel & Szymon Kudranski* highlighting an alternate, gutter-level view of the Penguin's plot against Gotham. This eight-page tale will also feature a surprise guest appearance by another Gotham regular.

•*Colin Lorimer's* UXB debuts in ***Dark Horse Presents #10.*** In a shattered future postwar London, powerful experimental "life suits" that permanently graft to human bodies are created to counter the threat of terrorism. Given to three brothers, the suits could make the trio the saviors of mankind—if they can ever get past their obsessions for film, violent video games, and porn. Lorimer's UXB is challenging, thought provoking, and laced with gallows humor.

"I'm thrilled that UXB has found a home within the hallowed pages of ***DHP***," Lorimer said. "The journey of UXB is going to be rather dark and twisted and there's no better place for that story to be told than Dark Horse."

•Batgirl becomes a permanent member of the Birds of Prey beginning with ***Birds of Prey #4.*** "Sure, Barbara Gordon (a.k.a. Batgirl) was reluctant at first," writer *Duane Swierczynski* said on DC's blog ***The Source.*** "She didn't necessarily want to be hanging out with a gang of outlaws, and she has serious doubts about at least one member of team. But to Batgirl, friendship trumps everything, and you'll see exactly how she finds her way to a permanent spot on the team in issues #4 and 5."

•***Detective Comics #1*** is going to a *fourth* printing; the new edition (OCT118112), featuring another recolored version of the original cover, is slated to reach comic shops on December 21st.

•*Grant Morrison & Ian Gibson's* ***Steed & Peel*** series (hey, they can't call it ***The Avengers*** for obvious reasons, right?), out of print for the better part of two decades since its original release by Eclipse, is returning to comic shops as a Boom Studios limited series beginning in January. This series, featuring some of Morrison's earliest comics work, is sure to appeal to fans of this superstar writer's current output. Look for the first issue in January.

•Last week, ***CSN*** told you about DC's various New 52 collected editions—but the one book we *didn't* list was the ***Wonder Woman*** collection, because DC had yet to announce format or release date. We now know that ***Wonder Woman Volume 1 HC,*** a 144-page edition collecting ***Wonder Woman #s 1-6,*** is slated for May 2012 release.

Coming Comics—DC in February

In *Grant Morrison, Andy Kubert, & Jesse Delperdang's* ***Action Comics #6,*** Superman of the present day must team up with suspiciously different versions of the Legion of Super-Heroes to save the jeans-wearing Superman of five years ago! But what role does the Anti-Superman Army play in all this?

Jonah Hex fights a giant bat to the death in ***All-Star Western #6*** by *Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, & Moritat.* But even with his winged foe slain, will he and Amadeus Arkham survive being trapped in a cave with the lost tribe of Miagani Indians? Hex and Arkham must enlist help – including some familiar faces and some surprising saviors – if they're going to make it out of this death trap and bring justice to the enslaver of Gotham's underprivileged children.

Before he and his family became hunted by The Rot, Buddy Baker starred in a low budget indie Super Hero film. Now we get to "watch" the movie in ***Animal Man #6,*** courtesy of director *Jeff Lemire* and guest cinematographer *John Paul Leon.*

Who sank Atlantis? Mera, the beautiful Atlantean assassin trained in the Bermuda Triangle, follows a trail of death and deceit to the one man who knows the ugly truth. But what does he want in return for his secrets – and how does it all tie into Mera's own dark past? *Geoff Johns, Ivan Reis, & Joe Prado* answer those questions in ***Aquaman #6.***

A bleeding, broken Batman confronts Talon, the Court of Owl's merciless killer, in ***Batman #6*** by *Scott Snyder, Greg Capullo, & Jonathan Glapion.*

As the bond between Batman and Robin deteriorates, Robin is forced

by NoBody to make a life and death decision – and Batman's hunt pushes the Dark Knight to the edge in ***Batman & Robin #6*** by *Peter Tomasi, Patrick Gleason, & Mick Gray.*

DC offers a look into the future of the DCU in ***Batman Beyond Unlimited,*** a 48-page comic that introduces the new Justice League Beyond in its premiere issue.

In *Paul Jenkins, David Finch, & Richard Friend's* ***Batman: The Dark Knight #6,*** Batman confronts the mastermind behind the toxin being injected into Gotham City's criminals.. only to discover that the conspiracy behind the toxin runs deeper than he could possibly have imagined.

Duane Swierczynski & Javier Pina send the Birds of Prey on a desperate quest for a mind-controlled man who is convinced they're out to get him in ***Birds of Prey #6.***

In *Gail Simone, Ardian Syaf, & Vicente Cifuentes'* ***Batgirl #6,*** Batgirl experiences her first face-to-face with Batman since her rehabilitation – and he has a few choice words to say about her return to crime fighting!

Artist *Amy Reeder* and inker *Richard Friend* join writers *J.H. Williams III & W. Haden Blackman* as the epic "To Drown the World" begins in ***Batwoman #6.***

Catwoman is under arrest and in the custody of the Gotham City P.D. But it doesn't look like she's going to get her phone call, because the police aren't looking for justice –

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EDITORS
Cliff Biggers
Ward Batty

Editorial Office
2770 Carillon Crossing
Marietta, GA 30066
cliffbig@comicshopnews.com

Business Office
3577-A Chamblee-Tucker Rd. #215
Atlanta, GA 30341
(770) 939-1364
wbatty@csnsider.com

www.csnsider.com
twitter.com/csnsider

SPIDER-MAN BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER

LATE NIGHT AT THE BUGLE...
I JUST GOT A CALL FROM SPIDER-MAN!
I COULD TELL—BY YOUR X-RATED LANGUAGE!
SLAM
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 11-21

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they're looking for what Catwoman stole from them in ***Catwoman #6*** by *Judd Winick & Guillem March.*

Dan DiDio & Jerry Ordway introduce the new Challengers of the Unknown in ***DC Universe Presents #6.*** Eight survivors of a fiery plane crash, bound by fate and death, are on a desperate mission to uncover the mysteries of the Unknown before the powers that saved their lives, claim them for eternity.

Just who was Adeline? And what happened to his son, Grant? Find out in issue #6 as the veil of Slade Wilson's past begins to lift in ***Deathstroke #6*** by *Kyle Higgins, Joe Bennett, & Art Thibert.*

Bodies are piling up, and one of their own has switched sides to lead the charge to destroy them! So how will the Knights turn the tide of battle? As *Paul Cornell, Diogenes Neves, & Oclair Albert* reveal in ***Demon Knights #6,*** it all comes down to the deal Etrigan and Jason Blood have made...

Batman invades The Penguin's floating casino as Bruce Wayne to uncover a brutal string of slayings – but he finds the chips stacked against him in ***Detective Comics #6*** by *Tony S. Daniel & Sandu Florea.*

The Flash must solve a murder mystery that dates back 150 years in ***The Flash #6*** by *Francis Manapul & Brian Buccellato.* Is this case too cold even for Barry Allen?

In *Jeff Lemire & Alberto Ponticelli's* ***Frankenstein, Agent of SHADE #6,*** Frankenstein and The Commandos head back to Vietnam to take out a rogue super human whom Frankenstein fought beside back in 1969.

The secret of Blood Rose revealed in ***Green Arrow #6*** by *Keith Giffen, Dan Jurgens, Ignacio Calero, & Ray McCarthy.* The mystery woman plaguing Green Arrow's life is exposed, but the shocker isn't who she is—it's *what* she is!

With the tumultuous battle for Korugar past them, Sinestro and Hal are left at a crossroads. They must pick up the pieces of their lives. The question is, will they do it alone...or together? Find out in ***Green Lantern #6*** by *Geoff Johns, Doug Mahnke, & Christian Alamy.*

Peter Tomasi, Fernando Pasarin, & Scott Hanna present the stunning conclusion to the war between the Corps and their new nemeses, the Keepers, in ***Green Lantern Corps #6.***

Green Lantern Kyle Rayner and his renegade team of Lanterns are all that stands between the creature Invictus and planetary genocide in *Tony Bedard, Tyler Kirkham, & Batt's* ***Green Lantern: New Guardians #6.***

In *Nathan Edmondson, Scott Clark, & Dave Beaty's* ***Grifter #6,*** Cole Cash's war with the Daemonites leads him to clues that will bring him face to face with Stormwatch and Voodoo.

In ***Hawk and Dove #6,*** guest-written as well as illustrated by *Rob Liefeld,* Hawk and Dove arrive in Gotham City hot on the trail of a villain who has stolen a deadly weapon from their home turf in Washington D.C.! The trail leads from the nation's capitol all the way to the doorstep of the Dynamic Duo. Get ready for Batman and... Dove?

It's a shock ending you won't see coming! Guest star Batman grudgingly helps Andrew fight the Queen of Blood, who has taken over Gotham City with her army of vampires, in ***I, Vampire #6*** by *Joshua Hale Fialkov & Andrea Sorrentino...* but Mary's going to lose something dear to her in the process!

The Justice League unites at last against Darkseid in ***Justice League #6*** by *Geoff Johns, Jim Lee, & Scott Williams*—and the awesome consequences of this high-stakes battle will resonate within the series for years to come!

Enchantress has been subdued, but this team of misfits hardly knows how to celebrate when each is still wrestling with their own demons in ***Justice League Dark #6*** by *Peter Milligan & Mikel Janin.*

In the aftermath of Peraxxus's near destruction of the planet Earth, the planet's heroes gather together to decide the fate of the JLI in ***Justice League International #6*** by *Dan Jurgen & Marco Castiello.*

Since the first issue, this time-lost band of Legionnaires has been operating in the shadows out of fear of corrupting the timestream. But their secret is out in *Fabian Nicieza & Pete Woods'* ***Legion Lost #6.*** Timber Wolf is captured and interrogated by a shadowy organization! Will he be able to maintain the team's cover? Or is their future doomed?

New Legion recruit Dragonwing has returned to China to check in with her family in ***Legion of Super-Heroes #6*** by *Paul Levitz & Francis Portela* – but her sister has fallen in with the wrong crowd and is sporting some terrifying new powers of her own!

In ***Men of War #6*** by *Ivan Brandon & Tom Derenick,* Joe Rock has escaped the mercenary soldiers holding Easy Company captive, but to free his men he must eliminate the payday that these unkillable men are after – and prove himself worthy of the title Sergeant Rock!

It's Valentine's Day as Mister Terrific visits Iceland to reconnect with his romantic past. But instead of a warm reunion, Michael ends up fighting for his against a deadly new foe, the Tomorrow Thief, in ***Mister Terrific #6*** by *Eric Wallace & Oliver Nome.*

A quiet double date for Kevin Kho turns into a battle for O.M.A.C.'s life as he faces the seductive menace of the ever so deadly Sweet Leilani in *Dan DiDio, Keith Giffen, Scott Kolins, & Scott Koblish's* ***OMAC #6.***

How did Jason Todd and Princess Koriand'r of Tamaran meet – and what has bonded them together in a way that neither could have imagined? Find out in *Scott Lobdell & Kenneth Rocafort's* ***Red Hood and the Outlaws #6.***

Rankorr, the newest Red Lantern, is here – and he's pissed! Find out what happens when the red ring selects a human host overcome with rage and grief. Plus: Atrocitus and Bleez face off against each other, and an old enemy stands revealed in ***Red Lanterns #6*** by *Peter Milligan, Ed Benes, & Rob Hunter.*

When Mitch Shelley finds himself institutionalized in Arkham Asylum, he realizes just how hard it is for an Arkham "guest" to kill himself... which means that Mitch may never get a chance to gain new powers! Witness his life-and-death struggle in ***Resurrection Man #6*** by *Dan Abnett, Andy Lanning, & Fernando Dagnino.*

In *Tony Daniel, James Bonney, & Philip Tan's* ***Savage Hawkman #6,*** Hawkman comes face to face with Jim Craddock, a.k.a. the Gentleman Ghost, a malevolent spirit obsessed with finding an ancient relic called the Mortis Orb.

The Shade's quest to find out who ordered his assassination takes him to Barcelona, where he stumbles upon a decades-old feud between a teenaged vampire and her archenemy in ***The Shade #5*** by *James Robinson & Javier Pulido.*

In ***Static Shock #6*** by *Scott McDaniel & Andy Owens,* Static and Hardware attempt to save Sharon Hawkins from the dangerous criminal mastermind responsible for the Hawkins family tragedy.

What lurks within the Stormwatch space station? As the origin of their alien HQ is revealed, what's left of the decimated Stormwatch roster regroups and a new team is formed in ***Stormwatch #6*** by *Paul Cornell & Miguel Sepulveda,* which will impact upcoming issues of ***Grifter*** and ***Voodoo.***

"The Hunt for Harley Quinn" starts in ***Suicide Squad #6,*** courtesy of *Adam Glass & Tom Raney.* After causing a prison riot and escaping an "escape-proof" supervillain penitentiary, the maniacal Harley Quinn is on the loose! The race is on as Deadshot – leading an all-new Suicide Squad – tracks his former teammate as Harley hunts the love of her life: the Joker, in an unofficial crossover with ***Stormwatch #6.***

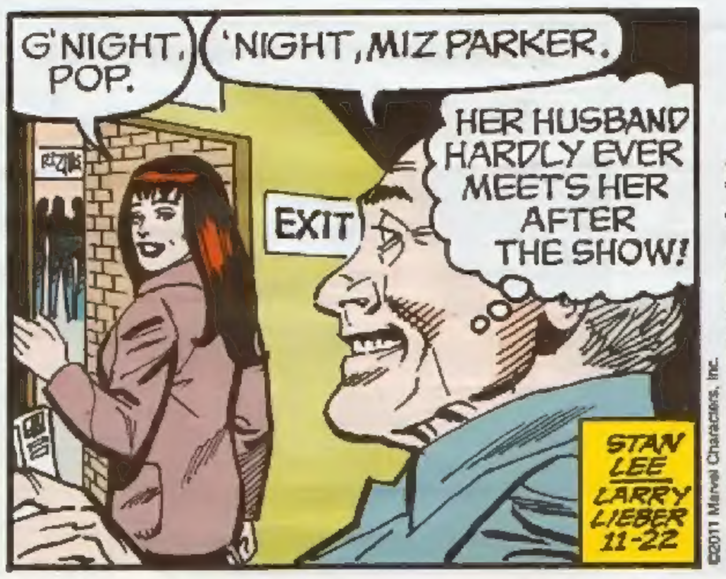
Superboy wants answers about his Kryptonian heritage, and he intends to track down Superman to get them – unfortunately, Supergirl's going to find him first, and she's horrified by what she sees! Witness the meeting in ***Superboy #6*** by *Scott Lobdell, R.B. Silva, & Rob Lean.*

While a powerful new alien foe threatens New York, a powerless Supergirl is trapped on a meteorite plunging straight into a blue sun in ***Supergirl #6*** by *Michael Green, Mike Johnson, & Mahmud Asrar.*

It was bad enough when an onslaught of creatures targeted Superman, nearly destroying Metropolis in the process. But it's even worse when Superman appears to help them finish the job! Find out what's going on in ***Superman #6*** by *George Pérez, Nicola Scott, & Trevor Scott,* a standalone issue guest-starring Supergirl.

The Rot is winning, and its necropolis in the American desert is nearly complete in *Scott Snyder & Marco Rudy's* ***Swamp Thing #6.*** With Abigail Arcane all but lost to its power and the herald of Sethe risen, Alec Holland will bitterly regret trying to flee his destiny as Swamp Thing...but even if he wanted to do the right thing, it's too late now!

In the aftermath of their battle with Superboy, the Teen Titans make a horrifying discovery: Kid Flash has been knocked out of synch! If they are going to save their teammate, the badly beaten and battered teens need to sneak into the New York branch of S.T.A.R. Labs – which means that *Scott Lobdell, Brett Booth, & Norm Rapmund's* ***Teen Titans #6*** guest-stars none other than Virgil Hawkins, a.k.a. Static! And if that's not enough, this issue also



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features the debut of Kid Flash's new costume!

In *Josh Williamson & Sami Basri's* ***Voodoo #6,*** Agent Fallon and the Black Razors are looking for revenge – but first they need to break another Daemonite Hybrid out of jail to help them track her down... and the identity of that Daemonite Hybrid will leave readers stunned!

Hades and Poseidon both have designs on the kingdom their brother Zeus left behind, but Wonder Woman doesn't intend to let their turf war decimate the realm of man! It'll take a big lie and some help from the mystery man known as Lennox to stop a holy war from breaking out in ***Wonder Woman #6*** by *Brian Azzarello & Tony Akins.*

DC collected editions (advance solicited for March and April release) include

- ***Flashpoint TP,*** collecting the five-issue miniseries by *Geoff Johns & Andy Kubert* that paved the way for the New 52.
- ***Flashpoint: The World of Flashpoint Featuring Batman TP,*** collecting ***Batman: Knight of Vengeance #s 1-3; Deadman and the Flying Graysons #s 1-3; Deathstroke and the Curse of the Ravager #s 1-3;*** and ***Secret Seven #s 1-3.***
- ***Flashpoint: The World of Flashpoint Featuring Superman TP,*** collecting ***World of Flashpoint #s 1-3; Booster Gold #s 44-47; The Canterbury Cricket;*** and ***Project Superman #s 1-3.***
- ***Flashpoint: The World of Flashpoint Featuring Wonder Woman TP,*** collecting ***Emperor Aquaman #s 1-3; Outsider #s 1-3; Lois Lane & the Resistance #s 1-3;*** and ***Wonder Woman & the Furies #s 1-3.***
- ***Flashpoint: The World of Flashpoint Featuring Green Lantern TP,*** collecting ***Hal Jordan #s 1-3; Abin Sur #s 1-3; Frankenstein & the Creatures of the Unknown #s 1-3;*** and ***Green Arrow Industries #1.***
- ***Flashpoint: The World of Flashpoint Featuring the Flash TP,*** collecting ***Grodd of War #1; Kid Flash Lost #s 1-3; Reverse Flash #1; Legion of Doom #s 1-3;*** and ***Citizen Cold #s 1-3.***
- ***Batman: Birth of the Demon TP,*** collecting ***Son of the Demon, Bride of the Demon,*** and ***Birth of the Demon*** in a single 296-page volume.
- ***Legends of the Dark Knight: Jim Aparo HC,*** collecting ***The Brave & The Bold #s 98, 100-102, & 104-122.***
- ***Gotham City Sirens: Divisions TP,*** collecting ***Gotham City Sirens #s 20-26.***
- ***Red Robin: Seven Days of Death TP,*** collecting ***Red Robins #s 18-21 & 23-26*** and ***Teen Titans #22.***
- ***DC Universe Online Legends Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***DCU Online Legends #s 8-15.***
- ***Justice League of America: The Rise of Eclipso HC,*** collecting ***Justice League of America #s 54-60*** and ***Justice Society of America #43.***
- ***Absolute Final Crisis HC,*** an oversized slip-cased edition of the 2008 event that includes ***Final Crisis #s 1-7, Final Crisis: Submit #1, Final Crisis: Superman Beyond #s 1 & 2,*** and the ***Final Crisis Sketchbook.*** This hardcover includes its own pair of 3-D glasses for the 3D sequences.
- ***Justice League of America: Dark Things TP,*** collecting ***JLA #s 44-48*** and ***JSA #s 41-42.***
- ***Justice League: Rise and Fall TP,*** collecting ***Justice League: Rise and Fall Special, Green Arrow #s 31-32,*** and ***The Rise of Arsenal #s 1-4.***
- ***Batman Incorporated Volume 1 Deluxe Edition HC,*** collecting ***Batman Incorporated #s 1-8*** and ***Batman Incorporated: Leviathan Strikes #1.***
- ***The New Teen Titans Omnibus Volume 2 HC,*** collecting *Marv Wolfman & George Pérez's* ***New Teen Titans #s 21-40, Tales of the New Teen Titans #s 41-44, New Teen Titans Annual #s 1-2, Tales of the New Teen Titans Annual #3,*** and ***Batman and the Outsiders #5.***
- ***The Flash Archives Volume 6 HC,*** collecting the Silver Age ***Flash #s 142-150.***
- ***Superman: Last Stand of New Krypton Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Superman: Last Stand of New Krypton #3, Adventure #s 10-11, Supergirl #52,*** and ***Superman #699.***
- ***The Green Lantern Chronicles Volume 4 TP,*** collecting the Silver Age ***Green Lantern #s 15-20.***
- ***Showcase Presents The Losers Volume 1 TP,*** collecting material from ***GI Combat #138*** and ***Our Fighting Forces #s 123-150.***
- ***Scooby-Doo, Where Are You? TP,*** collecting ***Scooby Doo, Where Are You? #s 1-6.***

Astro City: Shining Stars TP, collecting ***Astro City: Samaritan #1; Astro City: Astra #s 1 & 2; Astro City: Silver Agent #s 1 & 2;*** and ***Astro City: Beautie #1.***

Coming Comics— Vertigo in February

Eric Trautmann & Brandon Jerwa's ***Shooters HC*** is the story of Terry Glass, a warrior whose spirit and soul has been hardened in countless battles. When a horrible accident shatters his world, Glass finds himself waging a private war on several fronts – against his career, his marriage, and ultimately, his faith in this riveting tale of private military operators, the latest

breed of soldiers in modern warfare.

Vertigo collected editions (advance solicited for March and April release) include:

- ***Black Orchid Deluxe Edition HC,*** collecting the four-part limited series by *Neil Gaiman & Dave McKean.*

Snow and Bigby's cub Therese receives a Christmas gift from an unknown admirer in *Bill Willingham, Mark Buckingham, & Steve Leialoha's* ***Fables #114,*** the kickoff issue of an eight-part storyline. This red plastic boat may hold the key to a deep, disturbing secret that will incite a series of soul-crushing events for the denizens of Fabletown.

- ***100 Bullets Book Two Deluxe Edition HC,*** collecting ***100 Bullets #s 20-36.***
- ***DMZ Volume 11: Free States Rising TP,*** collecting ***DMZ #s 60-66.***
- ***Northlanders Volume 6: Thor's Daughter TP,*** collecting ***Northlanders #s 37-41.***

Jason Aaron & R.M. Guera kick off the final arc in ***Scalped #56.*** This issue picks up with the citizens of the Prairie Rose Rez, some of whom have found a peace they never could have imagined, while others are in more trouble than ever – with at least one person plotting his next move from behind bars.

Coming from DC Direct

Gary Frank's design art is the inspiration for *Jean St. Jean's* ***Batman Bust,*** which features Batman shrouded in a swirl of cape and bats.

Wonder Woman becomes an Ame-Comi warrior in the ***Ame-Comi Heroine Series Wonder Woman Re-Paint PVC Figure,*** designed by *Jim Fletcher* and sculpted by *Jack Mathews.*

Hal Jordan faces off against the embodiment of fear in the ***Green Lantern Hal Jordan Vs. Parallax Statue,*** a massive 12.5" tall two-figure sculpt.

The ***Green Lantern Animated Series*** is the inspiration for *Dave Cortez's* ***Green Lantern: The Animated Series Atrocitus Statue.***

Coming Comics— Marvel in February

Morbius, the Living Vampire returns in *Dan Slott & Matt Clark's* ***Amazing Spider-Man #679.1.***

Hawkeye guest-stars in ***Avenging Spider-Man #4,*** brought to you by *Zeb Wells* and *Greg Land.*

Hydra makes a play for HAMMER as Norman Osborn tries to take back the Avengers in ***Avengers #22 & 23*** by *Brian Bendis, Renato Guedes, & Daniel Acuna.*

SO SERRA CARSON WAS "THE BIG BOSS"?
RIGHT, HONEY!
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BUT IF SERRA CARSON WAS A CRIME LORD—WHY DID SHE TRY TO FRAME YOU?
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Cable battles the Red Hulk as his fight to save the future carries on in ***Avengers: X-Sanction #3*** by *Jeph Loeb & Ed McGuinness.*

Fresh from his battle in ***Avenging Spider-Man,*** Mole Man makes an appearance in *Mark Waid & Paolo Rivera's* ***Daredevil #9.***

As the team attempts to learn the secrets of the Concordance Engine deep within Wundagore Mountain, they gain a secret member and discover a millennia-old conspiracy in ***Defenders #3*** by *Matt Fraction & Terry Dodson.*

Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa & David Marquez present a streamlined, updated retelling of the Fantastic Four's origin in ***Fantastic Four: Season One Premiere HC,*** an original graphic novel supplemented with a reprint of ***Fantastic Four #570.***

The mysterious figure who split Banner and Hulk is revealed in *Jason Aaron & Whilce Portacio's* ***Incredible Hulk #5.***

Daimon Hellstrom guest-stars in *Kieron Gillen & Richard Elson's* ***Journey Into Mystery #634,*** helping Loki hunt down the bad dreams of ***Fear Itself.***

The New Avengers battle the Dark Avengers in ***New Avengers #21*** by *Brian Bendis & Mike Deodato...* and one Avenger leaves the team in defeat. This paves the way for the final confrontation between the teams in ***New Avengers #22...*** and not everyone makes it out alive.

Jason Aaron & Steve Dillon bring ***PunisherMAX*** to a close with #22... but this isn't a cancellation—well, at least not in the way that we normally understand the term...

The new Scarlet Spider makes some new friends – and deadly enemies – on the streets of Houston in *Christopher Yost & Ryan Stegman's* ***Scarlet Spider #2.***

Hawkeye becomes the new team leader in ***Secret Avengers #22*** by *Rick Remender & Gabriel Hardman,* and Captain Britain and Giant-Man join the team.

The time-stranded heroes of World War II are back in ***The Twelve #9*** by *J. Michael Straczynski & Chris Weston,* which marks the return of the acclaimed limited series after far too long an absence. But one member of the team is about to fall...

The world finds out about the new web-slinger in ***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man #7*** by *Brian Bendis & Chris Samnee...* and Uncle Aaron finds out a secret about Miles...

Pietro struggles with the aftermath of Stryker's attack on New York in ***Ultimate Comics X-Men #7*** by *Nick Spencer & Carlo Barbieri...* and the Scarlet Witch returns with a warning. Then Nick Fury's covert mutant strategy comes back to haunt him in ***Ultimate Comics X-Men #8.***

A new foe is introduced in *Kieron Gillen & Greg Land's* ***Uncanny X-Men #6...*** and he's about to show the X-Men just how out of date homo superior really are!

Rick Remender kicks off a six-part Venom event in ***Venom #13,*** leading into ***Venom #s 13.1-13.4.*** Hell is spreading across the Earth from out of Las Vegas. Ghost Rider is responsible but what price is she willing to pay to save mankind?! X-23, Venom & Hulk must defeat their worst enemies, buying Ghost Rider time to stop hell's march across the globe!

Once Bucky, once Captain America, once dead, now he's the Winter Soldier—and along with the Black Widow, he's one of the Marvel Universe's most secret super-spies. See him in

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From comic books to action figures, games to DVDs, there's something for everyone in the DECEMBER issue of *PREVIEWS*!

COVER STORY

DETECTIVE COMICS #6
DC Comics
The Dark Knight gambles with his very life when he infiltrates The Penguin's floating casino the *Iceberg* on her maiden voyage out of Gotham Harbor, posing as Bruce Wayne to move about unnoticed. But danger stalks the crowded casino floor...

CONAN THE BARBARIAN #1
Dark Horse Comics
Conan takes to the high seas with Bêlit, "Queen of the Black Coast," setting the stage for an epic tale of romance, terror, and swashbuckling, as told by Brian Wood and Becky Cloonan!

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action in ***Winter Soldier #s 1 & 2*** by *Ed Brubaker & Butch Guice.*

Tony Stark & Steve Rogers guest star in *Peter David & Emanuela Lupacchino's* ***X-Factor #231,*** while Doctor Strange and the dread Dormammu make an appearance in ***X-Factor #232...*** and believe it or not, it all fits together...

For the first time since ***Schism,*** members of Cyclops' X-Men come face to face with Wolverine's X-Men in *Christos Gage & David Baldeon's* ***X-Men Legacy #262...*** and the results aren't pretty!

Marvel collected editions include:

•***Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter: Circus of the Damned Book 3—The Scoundrel Premiere HC,*** collecting the five-part miniseries.

•***Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter: The Laughing Corpse—Animator #s 1-5, Necromancer #s 1-5, & Executioner #s 1-5.***

•***Annihilators TP,*** collecting ***Annihilators #s 1-4.***

•***Astonishing Thor TP,*** collecting the five-part miniseries.

•***Astonishing X-Men by Joss Whedon & John Cassaday Ultimate Collection Book 1 TP,*** collecting ***Astonishing X-Men #s 1-12.***

•***Avengers 1959 TP,*** collecting *Howard Chaykin's* five-part miniseries.

•***Avengers Assemble Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Avengers #s 12-23, #0, & Annual '99.***

•***Avengers: The Big Three TP,*** collecting ***Avengers #s 150-151, 215-216, & 224; Avengers: The Terminatrix Objective #s 1-4,*** and more.

•***Avengers: The Crossing Omnibus HC,*** collecting ***Avengers #s 390-395, Iron Man #s 319-325, Force Works #s 16-22, War Machine #s 20-25,*** and much more.

•***Avengers: The Earth's Mightiest Heroes Ultimate Collection TP,*** collecting both eight-part miniseries.

•***Avengers: The Korvak Saga TP,*** collecting ***Avengers #s 167-168 & 170-177.***

THE AVENGERS
15¢
YE HAVE DISGRACED THE NAME OF THE AVENGERS!
GO THEN, AND BE AVENGERS NO MORE!
FOR, ALL THINGS MUST END!
MARVEL COMICS GROUP

•***Avengers: Kree/Skrull War HC,*** collecting the *Roy Thomas/Neal Adams/John Buscema/Sal Buscema* arc from ***Avengers #s 89-97.***

•***Avengers: The Origin TP,*** collecting the five-part miniseries.

•***Avengers: The Private War of Dr. Doom Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Avengers #s 150-156, Annual #6,*** and ***Super-Villain Team-Up #9.***

•***Captain America by Dan Jurgens Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Captain America (1998) #s 45-50 & Annual 2001.***

•***Captain America: Prisoner of War TP,*** collecting ***Captain America #s 616-619.***

•***Carnage: Family Feud TP,*** collecting the five-part miniseries.

•***Daken: Dark Wolverine—The Pride Comes Before the Fall Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Daken #s 13-19.***

•***Daredevil: Reborn TP,*** collecting the four-part miniseries.

•***Ender's Shadow Ultimate Collection Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Battle School #s 1-5*** and ***Command School #s 1-5.***

•***Essential X-Factor Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***X-Factor #s 51-59 & Annual 4*** and much more in a 520-page black and white compendium.

•***Fear Itself: Avengers Academy Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Avengers Academy #s 14-20 & 14.1.***

•***Fear Itself: Black Panther—The Man Without Fear Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Black Panther #s 519-524.***

•***Fear Itself: Deadpool/Fearsome Four Premiere HC,*** collecting the two tie-in miniseries.

•***Fear Itself: Herc Premiere HC,*** collecting the six-part miniseries.

•***Fear Itself: Hulk Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Hulk #s 37-41.***

•***Fear Itself: Invincible Iron Man Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Invincible Iron Man #s 504-509*** and ***Fear Itself #7.2.***

•***Fear Itself: Secret Avengers Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Secret Avengers #s 12.1 & 13-15*** and ***Fear Itself: Black Widow #1.***

•***Fear Itself: Uncanny X-Men Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Men #s 540-544.***

•***FF by Jonathan Hickman Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***FF #s 1-5.***

•***Hulk: Return of the Monster Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Incredible Hulk #s 34-39*** and ***Startling Stories: Banner #s 1-4.***

•***Invincible Iron Man Volume 8: Unfixable TP,*** collecting ***Invincible Iron Man #s 501-503*** and more.

•***John Carter: World of Mars TP,*** collecting the four-part prequel miniseries.

•***Ka-Zar by Mark Waid & Andy Kubert Volume 2 TP*** collecting ***Ka-Zar #s 8-14 & Annual '97.***

•***Marvel Masterworks: Atlas Era Journey Into Mystery Volume 4 HC,*** collecting ***Journey Into Mystery #s 31-40,*** featuring material by *Stan Lee, Bill Everett, Al Williamson, Wally Wood, Bernie Krigstein, Gene Colan* and the first Marvel story by *Steve Ditko.*

•***Marvel Masterworks: The Avengers Volume 12 HC,*** collecting ***Avengers #s 112-119, Defenders #s 8-11,*** and material from ***FOOM #s 5-7.***

•***Marvel Masterworks: The Incredible Hulk Volume 2 TP,*** collecting the Hulk tales from ***Tales to Astonish #s 59-79.***

•***Marvel Zombies Supreme TP,*** collecting the five-part miniseries.

•***Millar & McNiven's Nemesis TP,*** collecting the four-part miniseries.

•***New Avengers by Brian Bendis Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***New Avengers #s 7-13.***

•***Powers Volume 5: Anarchy Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Powers #s 21-24.***

•***The Punisher by Greg Rucka Volume 1 Premiere HC,*** collecting ***The Punisher (2011) #s 1-5*** and more.

•***Quasar Classic Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Quasar #s 1-9*** and more.

•***Silver Surfer: Parable Premiere HC,*** collecting the Epic ***Silver Surfer*** two-parter by *Stan Lee & Moebius* and ***Silver Surfer: The Enslavers*** by Lee & *Keith Pollard.*

•***Superior Premiere HC,*** collecting the seven-part miniseries.

•***Spider-Island Companion HC,*** a 360-page compilation of a variety of Spider-Island miniseries and tie-in oneshots and standalone stories.

•***Spider-Man: The Fantastic Spider-Man TP,*** collecting ***Amazing Spidey #s 658-662.***

•***Spider-Man: The Next Chapter Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Amazing Spider-Man (1999) #s 7-12*** and ***Peter Parker: Spider-Man #s 7-12.***

•***The Stand: The Night Has Come Premiere HC,*** collecting the six-part miniseries.

•***Strikeforce Morituri Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Strikeforce Morituri #s 14-26.***

•***The Thing: The Serpent Crown Affair Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Marvel Two-In-One #s 64-67*** and ***Marvel Team-Up Annual #5.***

•***Torso GN,*** collecting the six-part series by *Brian Bendis* with *Marc Andreyko.*

•***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man by Brian Bendis Volume 1 Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man (2011) #s 1-5 & Ultimate Fallout #5.***

•***Ultimate Comics Ultimates by Jonathan Hickman Volume 1 Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Ultimate Comics Ultimates #s 1-6.***

•***Ultimate Spider-Man Volume 12 HC,*** collecting ***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man #s 1-14.***

•***Uncanny X-Force: The Dark Agnel Saga Book 2 Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Force #s 14-18.***

•***Uncanny X-Force Volume 2: Deathlok Nation TP,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Force #s 5-7 & 5.1.***

•***Vengeance HC,*** collecting the six-part miniseries.

•***Wolverine & Captain America TP,*** collecting the four-part miniseries and more.

•***X-Factor: Super Unnatural Premiere HC,*** collecting ***X-Factor #s 224.1 & 225-228.***

•***X-Force: Necrosha TP,*** collecting ***X-Necrosha: The Gathering, X-Force #s 21-25,*** and more.

•***X-Men: FF Premiere HC,*** collecting ***X-Men #s 15.1 & 16-19.***

•***X-Men Legacy: Five Miles South of the Universe Premiere HC,*** collecting ***X-Men Legacy #s 254-260.***

•***X-Men Legacy: Necrosha TP,*** collecting ***X-Men Legacy #s 231-234*** and more.

•***X-Men: Prelude to Schism TP,*** collecting the four-part miniseries.

Coming Comics—Dark Horse in February

In *Christos Gage & Rebekah Isaacs'* ***Angel & Faith #7,*** Angel and Faith confront a hot new vampire in the underground scene . . . Drusilla. She is back in her homeland and feeling better than ever! While Angel indecisively deals with Dru, Faith must sort out an unexpected guest of her own ...

The SFPD needs Buffy's help to deal with the growing zompire population—but they'll have to settle for assistance from Spike instead! ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 9 #6*** kicks off a two-issue arc by *Andrew Chambliss & Georges Jeanty.*

A B.P.R.D. task force is assembled to solve a new series of disappearances in the deadly woods from New World in *Mike Mignola, John Arcudi, & James Harren's* ***BPRD: Hell on Earth—The Long Death #1.*** As the team works together to find the monster responsible, tensions arise over one another's loyalties!

From ***Couriers*** to Conan! *Brian Wood & Becky Cloonan* are Cimmeria-bound as they take over the comic starring *Robert E. Howard's* barbarian hero. ***Conan the Barbarian #1*** kicks off an adaptation of "Queen of the Black Coast," featuring Conan and the pirate queen Belit.

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In ***Star Wars: Dawn of the Jedi #0,*** *John Ostrander & Jan Duursema* take a look at the Star Wars of 25,000 years ago—before there were lightsabers, when the ties to the Force were new, and before the Jedi spread out into the galaxy. Then Ostrander and Duursema continue their chronicle of the origins of the Jedi in ***Star Wars: Dawn of the Jedi #1.***

Dark Horse collected editions (advance solicited for March and April release) include:

- ***BPRD: Plague of Frogs Volume 3 HC,*** collecting three *Mike Mignola* trades in one hefty hardcover edition.
- ***Dollhouse Volume 12: Epitaphs TP,*** collecting the miniseries that continued the saga of the fan-favorite *Joss Whedon* TV series.
- ***Eerie Presents Hunter HC,*** collecting the blend of SF and fantasy created by *Bill Dubay, Paul Neary, Alex Nino,* and others.
- ***Hellcyon TP*** collecting *Lucas Marangon's* miniseries, including the unpublished ***Hellcyon #4*** and bonus extras.
- ***Mass Effect Volume 3: Invasion TP,*** collecting the miniseries, along with a *Mac Walters* story seeing print for the first time.
- ***MegaTokyo Omnibus Volume 1 TP,*** a 544-page edition collecting the first three volumes of *Fred Gallagher's* webcomic.
- ***Murky World,*** collecting *Richard Corben's* serialized story from ***Dark Horse Presents.***
- ***Star Wars: The Old Republic Volume 3—The Lost Suns TP,*** collecting the story arc by *Alexander Freed & George Freeman* that directly ties into the game.
- ***Star Wars Omnibus: The Other Sons of Tatooine TP,*** collecting the tales of Biggs Darklighter and Janet "Tank" Sunber.

Dark Horse's line of Marvel syrocco-style statues continues with the release of ***Classic Marvel Characters #5: Dr. Strange,*** limited to 750 numbered pieces.

In response to the strong demand for the previously solicited ***Mass Effect*** ship replica, Dark Horse is offering the ***Mass Effect: Alliance Normandy SR-2 Replica Ship Antique Silver Edition,*** offered in a limited 1500 piece edition complete with a custom base treatment different from the regular edition.

Coming Comics—Image in February

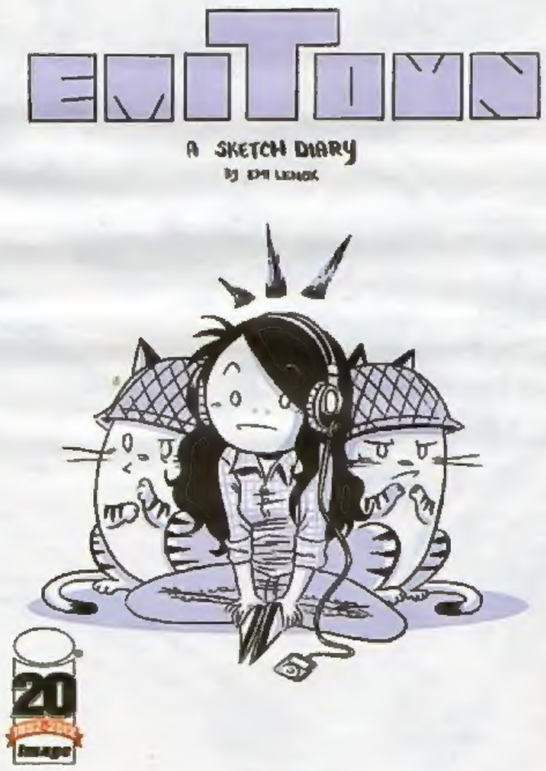
An iconoclastic teenage girl finds herself quite possibly the last sane woman on earth in ***Alpha Girl #1*** by *Jean-Paul Bonjour, Jeff Roening, Robert Love, Dana Shukartsi, & Diego Simone.* When a third-rate cosmetics company creates a pheromone that turns women into crazed man-eaters (quite literally!), Judith must break her little brother out of juvie, all the while dodging rabid women and the men who hunt them.

Natalie Nourigat presents an honest, autobiographical account of a college senior's life in ***Between Gears TP,*** a 304-page collection that supplements the comic book series with 30 pages of new material.

Phil Hester brins his ***Darkness*** run to a close with the extra-length 100th issue. Darkness bearer, Jackie Estacado comes face-to-face with the source of his power and misery – the Darkness itself! And only one of them will walk away…

Emi Lenox's day-by-day autobiographical single page sketch journal continues in the pages of ***EmiTown Volume 2 TP.*** Life gets serious in year two with complications of a relationship, the loss of a job, and the excitement of a blooming career.

Extreme's warrior goddesss returns in ***Glory #23*** (continuing the old numbering, of course) by *Joe Keatinge & Ross Campbell.* After missing for almost a decade, Glory's whereabouts are uncovered by a lone reporter, but the globe-spanning conspiracy keeping her hidden from humanity could make her return more dangerous than anyone ever anticipated!



Dee's life is in turmoil when her parents are killed in a freak tornado. Returning to Kansas for the funeral after five years in LA, Dee discovers Emeraldsville is the same unexciting place it was when she left - until the bizarre unexplained murders begin in ***No Place Like Home #1*** by *Angelo Tirotto & Richard Jordan.* With an unknown killer closing in, the events of one night in 1959 begin to unravel as a portal to a world of horror opens.

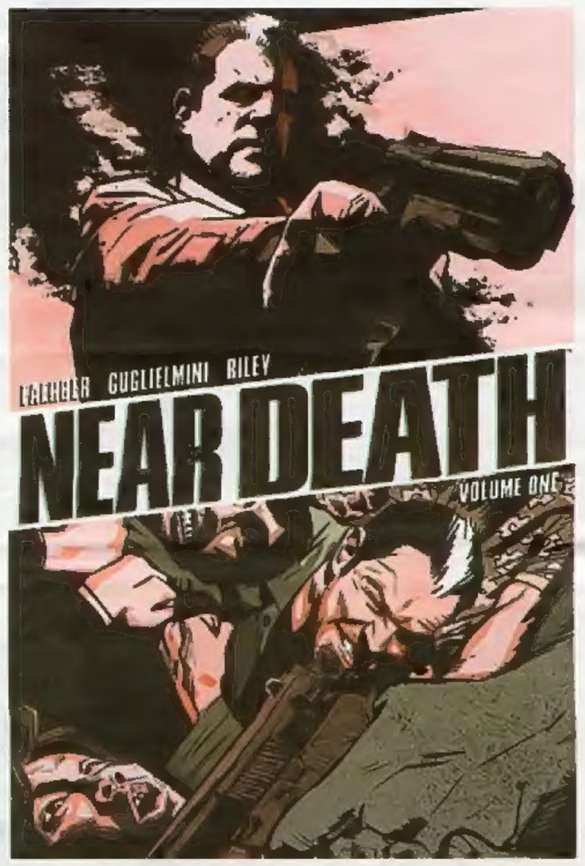
The city of Calais is the first city in France to fall to the Germans in the spring of 1940. A mysterious American boy named Peter rallies a handful of plucky French orphans and they must work together to survive Europe's darkest hour in ***Peter Panzerfaust #1*** by *Kurtis J. Wiebe & Tyler Jenkin.*

Jimmy Palmiotti & Artiz Eiguren present the story of a young woman dealing with the insanity of the world around her in ***Queen Crab,*** a 64-page hardcover. The star of the book is Ginger, a twenty-something office girl that lives her life one boring day at a time until on her wedding night, her new husband tries to kill her...and it goes *horribly* wrong.

Robert Kirkman, Nick Spencer, & Shawn Martinbrough introduce readers to Conrad Paulson, a man who lives a secret life as a master thief. Now that his family has abandoned him, Paulson decides to follow a path to reformation in ***Thief of Thieves #1...*** but it appears that the long arm of the law is the least of his worries!

Image collected editions include:

- ***Artifacts Origins: First Born TP,*** collecting ***Artifacts #s 1-3, Witchblade #s 110-112,*** and ***First Born: Aftermath.***
- ***Hack/Slash Volume 10 TP: Dead Celebrities,*** collecting ***Hack/Slash #s 5-8*** and ***Hack/Slash Annual #3: Hatchet/Slash.***
- ***Invincible Ultimate Collection Volume 7 HC,*** collecting ***Invincible #s 71-84.***
- ***King City TP,*** collecting *Brandon Graham's* ***King City #s 1-12*** in a hefty 424-page volume.



- ***Near Death Volume 1 TP,*** collecting the first five issues of *Jay Faerber & Simone Guglielmini's* story of a professional killer whose near-death experience convinces him he has to save a life for every life he's taken.
- ***Pigs Volume 1: Hello Cruel World TP,*** collecting ***Pigs #s 1-4.***
- ***Pilot Season 2012 TP,*** collecting all eight of this year's ***Pilot Season*** oneshots.
- ***Samurai's Blood Volume 1 TP,*** collecting the six-issue miniseries.

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WOW! IF YOU GOT A RAISE, HONEY--
WITH YOUR SALARY ADDED TO MINE, WE'LL BE MAKING—
--WHAT YOU EARN!
I FORGOT-- I'M OUT OF A JOB!
BUT WITH SERRA GONE, THE BUGLE MAY NEED YOU NOW!
WE KNOW IT! LET'S HOPE JAMESON DOES!
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
11-26
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BATMAN

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